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SOCIAL SERVICE.

Series D.—ANTI-MORMON.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

of the

"Latter-Day Saints"

with

MORMON EXPLANATIONS.

COMPILED BY
REV. J. D. NUTTING
REV. D. J. McMILLAN, D. D.

LEAGUE FOR SOCIAL SERVICE,
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ARTICLES OF FAITH

OF THE

"LATTER-DAY SAINTS"

WITH

MORMON EXPLANATIONS.

THE Articles of Faith of the Mormon Church would seem to embody the fundamental doctrines held by Christians generally, adding a few which are of only secondary importance and peculiar to the "Latter-day Saints." But the authoritative interpretation of these Articles places Mormonism beyond the pale of Christianity.

The following quotations are in every instance taken from standard Mormon works, published by themselves, and present Mormon doctrine as it is taught in Utah.

1. We believe in God, the Eternal Father, and in his Son, Jesus Christ, and in the Holy Ghost.

"God himself was once as we are now, and is an exalted Man."—*Joseph Smith, Jour. of Dis., Vol. VI., p. 3.* "*He*" [Adam] "is our *Father* and our *God*, and the only God with whom we have to do."—*Brigham Young, J. of D., I. 50.* "The head God called together the Gods, and sat in grand council to bring forth the world."—*Jos. Smith, J. of D. VI. 5.* Mormon Catechism, Chapter IV., *Question 1.* "Are there more Gods than one?" *Answer.* "*Yes, many.*" "When our Father Adam came into the garden of Eden, he came into it with a *celestial body*, and brought Eve, *one of his wives*, with him."—*Brigham Young, J. of D., I. 50.* "Each God, through his wife or wives, raises up a numerous family of sons and daughters; . . . for each father and mother will be in a condition to multiply forever and ever." *The Seer, I. 37.* "Jesus Christ and the Father are two persons, in the same sense that John and Peter are two persons . . . possessing every organ, limb, and material part that man possesses." (Speaking of Electricity, etc.) "The purest, most refined and subtle of these substances . . . is that substance called the Holy Spirit."—*P. P. Pratt, Key to Theology, 42 and 46.* "There is no other God in heaven but that God who has flesh and bones."—*Joseph Smith, Compendium, 287.* These gods are "therefore subject to the necessary laws

which govern all matter."—*Key to Theology, pp. 44 and 46.* "You think our father and our God is not a lively, sociable, and cheerful man; he is one of the most lively men that ever lived."—*Apostle H. C. Kimball, Sermon Sept. 15, 1857.*

2. We believe that men will be punished for their own sins, and not for Adam's transgression.

"13. Q. Was it necessary that Adam should partake of the forbidden fruit? A. Yes, unless he had done so he would not have known good and evil here, neither could he have had mortal posterity . . . we ought to consider the fall of our first parents as one of the great steps to eternal exaltation and happiness, and one ordered by God in his infinite wisdom."—*Catechism, pp. 32 and 33.* "Q. Did Adam and Eve lament or rejoice because they had transgressed the commandment . . .? A. They rejoiced and praised God."—*Catechism, p. 32.* (*See Pearl of Great Price, pp. 19, 31; Comp. 4.*)

3. We believe that, through the atonement of Christ, all mankind may be saved, by obedience to the laws and ordinances of the Gospel.

The atonement "signifies the deliverance . . . of the earth and everything pertaining to it, from the power which death has obtained over them through the transgression of Adam. . . . Redemption from personal sins can only be obtained through obedience to the requirements of the Gospel [Mormonism] and a life of good works."—*Comp. pp. 8, 9.* "No person who has arrived at years of accountability, and has heard the Gospel,

can be saved without baptism."—*Catechism, p. 40.* "Children shall be baptized for the remission of their sins when eight years old, and receive the laying on of hands."—*Doctrine and Covenants, 68, 27.* "Will all the people be damned who are not Latter-day Saints? Yes, and a great many of them, except they repent speedily."—*Brigham Young, J. of D., I. 339.*

4. We believe that the first principles and ordinances of the Gospel are: First, Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ; second, repentance; third, baptism by immersion for the remission of sins; fourth, laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost.

"Faith is a principle of power, in fact, the foundation of power."—*Catechism, p. 37.* "The ordinance must be performed correctly. There is but 'one' baptism. . . . Any other kind of baptism is spurious and of no effect. . . . The living may be baptized for the dead. . . . The living relatives . . . stand in the name and place of the departed and receive the ordinances to be placed to the credit of the dead. . . . The place for these administrations is in a temple built to the Most High God, after the pattern revealed. . . . The fathers in the spirit world look to the children in the flesh to perform for them the works which they were unable to attend to while in the body." *Mormon Doctrine, pp. 38, 40.* "All the spirits who have not obeyed the gospel in the flesh [baptism] must either obey it in the spirit or be damned."—*Joseph Smith, J. of D., VI. 7.* "There is a set mode by which this great gift [Holy Spirit] is conferred upon mankind . . .—the laying on of hands by men who have themselves

received it and have been called of God and ordained to administer it."—*Mor. Doc., pp. 16, 17.*

5. We believe that a man must be called of God, by "prophecy, and by the laying on of hands," by those who are in authority, to preach the gospel and administer in the ordinances thereof.

"It is a dreadful thing to fight against or in any manner oppose the Priesthood."—*President Geo. Q. Cannon, sermon on Thatcher matter, Tabernacle, April 5, '97.* "Their priesthood gives them the right to advise and instruct the Saints, and their jurisdiction extends over all things spiritual or temporal."—*Sermon by President Gowans, Logan Journal, May 26, 1898.* "No man need judge me. You know nothing about it, whether I am sent or not; furthermore it is none of your business, only to listen with open ears to what is taught you and serve God with undivided heart."—*Brigham Young, Journal of Discourses, I. 341.*

6. We believe in the same organization that existed in the primitive church, namely, apostles, prophets, pastors, teachers, evangelists, etc.

"Think of it! This same Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, ordained Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery Apostles by Peter, James and John. His servants, Joseph and Oliver, having received this apostleship, confirmed it upon twelve brethren of the Church, and those brethren have conferred it upon us who are in the stand to-day; thus some of us have received this holy apostleship but the fourth in succession from Jesus Christ."—*Elder F. D. Richards, Conference, Oct. 5, '97.* (Speaking

of the ministry of the general Christian Church) *Mor. Doc., p. 21* calls it "a spurious priesthood, destitute of divine authority, divine inspiration and divine power, . . . set up by ambitious and designing men . . . base counterfeit of the true and heavenly coin." "Such persons are false teachers, and the wrath of God is kindled against them." —*Catechism, p. 44.*

7. We believe in the gift of tongues, prophecy, revelation, visions, healing, interpretation of tongues, etc.

"Q. What are the peculiar manifestations of the Holy Ghost? A. Amongst others, visions, dreams, prophecies, speaking in divers tongues, interpretation of tongues, discernment of spirits and angels; knowledge, wisdom, extraordinary faith, healings and miraculous powers. . . . These manifestations of the Spirit always follow faith in, and obedience to, the Gospel."—*Catechism, pp. 43, 44. Apostle Parley P. Pratt prophesied in 1838:* "Within ten years from now the people of this country who are not Mormons will be entirely subdued by the Latter-day Saints or swept from the face of the earth, and *if this prediction fails, then you may know that the Book of Mormon is not true.*" *This was proclaimed in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, March 27, 1853, by Brigham Young, and recorded in Journals of Discourses, Vol. I., p. 83:* "I will tell you a dream that I had last night. I dreamed that I was in the midst of a people who were dressed in rags and tatters. They had turbans on their heads, and these were also hanging in tatters. The rags were of many colors, and, when the people moved, they were all in motion. Their object in this appeared to be to attract attention. Said they to me, 'We are Mor-

mons, Brother Brigham.' 'No, you are not,' I replied. '*But we have been*,' said they, and began to jump and caper about and dance, and their rags of many colors were all in motion to attract the attention of the people. I said, 'You are no Saints; you are a disgrace to them.' Said they, '*We have been Mormons*.' By and by along came some mobocrats, and they greeted me with, 'How do you do, sir? I am happy to see you.' They kept on that way for an hour. I felt ashamed of them, for they were, in my eyes, a disgrace to Mormonism. Then I saw two ruffians whom I knew to be mobbers and murderers, and they crept into a bed where one of my wives and children were. I said, 'You that call yourselves brethren, tell me, is this the fashion among you?' They said, 'Oh, they are good men; they are gentlemen.' With that I took my large bowie-knife that I used to wear as a bosom-pin in Nauvoo, and cut one of their throats from ear to ear, saying, 'Go to hell across lots.' The other one said, 'You dare not serve me so.' I instantly sprang at him, seized him by the hair of the head, and bringing him down, cut his throat, and sent him after his comrade; and then told them both if they would behave themselves they should yet live, but if they did not I would unjoint their necks. At this I awoke. I say rather than that apostates should flourish here I will unsheath my bowie-knife and conquer or die."

8. We believe the Bible to be the word of God, so far as it is translated correctly; we also believe the Book of Mormon to be the word of God.

"And if thou shalt ask, thou shalt receive revelation upon revelation."—*D. and C., 42: 61.*

"Thou fool, that shall say, A Bible, a Bible, we have got a Bible, and we need no more Bible." . . . "Ye need not suppose that it contains all my words; neither need ye suppose that I have not caused more to be written."—*Book of Mormon, II Nephi, 29: 6, 10.* "We consider the Book of Mormon, Book of Doctrine and Covenants, Pearl of Great Price and sayings of Joseph, The Seer, our guides in faith and doctrine."—*Comp. preface.* "Add all this imperfection to the uncertainty of the translation, and who, in his right mind, could, for one moment, suppose the Bible in its present form to be a perfect guide? Who knows that even one verse of the whole Bible has escaped pollution, so as to convey the same sense now that it did in the original?"—*Apostle Pratt, Work on Divine Auth. of the Book of Mormon, p. 218.* "Wilford Woodruff is a prophet, and I know that he has a great many prophets around him, and he can make scriptures as good as those in the Bible."—*Apostle J. W. Taylor, Conference, Salt Lake, April 5, '97.* ". . . The living oracles . . . are worth more to the Latter-day Saints than all the Bibles, etc."—*Elder M. W. Merrill, Conference, Salt Lake City, Oct. 4, '97.* "Compared with the living oracles those books are nothing to me."—*Pres. Wilford Woodruff, same conference.*

9. We believe all that God has revealed, all that he does now reveal, and we believe that he will yet reveal many great and important things pertaining to the kingdom of God. (See under 8.)

10. We believe in the literal gathering of Israel and in the restoration of the ten tribes. That Zion will be built upon this continent.

That Christ will reign personally upon the earth, and that the earth will be renewed and receive its paradisiacal glory.

11. We claim the privilege of worshipping Almighty God according to the dictates of our conscience, and allow all men the same privilege, let them worship how, where or what they may.

"I say, rather than apostates should flourish here, I will unsheath my bowie-knife, and conquer or die. Now, you nasty apostates, clear out, or judgment will be put to the line. . . . I want you to hear, bishops, what I am about to tell you: Kick these men out of your wards."—*Sermon by Brigham Young, J. of D., I. pp. 83, 84. Prophet Brigham Young, in a discourse in the Tabernacle, February 8, 1857, said:* "I have known a great many men who have left this church for whom there is no chance whatever for exaltation, but if their blood had been spilled it would have been better for them. The wickedness and ignorance of the nations forbid this principle being in full force, but the time will come when the will of God will be in full force. This is loving our neighbor as ourselves: if he needs help, help him; if he wants salvation and it is necessary to spill his blood on the earth, in order that he may be saved, spill it. That is the way to love mankind."

12. We believe in being subject to kings, presidents, rulers and magistrates, in obeying, honoring and sustaining the law.

"The priesthood will bear rule, and hold the government of the kingdom under control in all things."—*Brigham Young, J. of D., V. 2, p. 189.*

The priesthood "is the legitimate rule of God, whether in the heavens or on the earth, and it is the only legitimate power that has a right to rule on the earth; and when the will of God is done on earth as it is in heaven, no other power will be or rule."—*Apostle John Taylor, J. of D., V. 5, p. 186 and on.* "There is no safety under the government of the United States."—*Wilford Woodruff, 1845, Millen. Star, Vol. 7, p. 2.*

13. We believe in being honest, true, chaste, benevolent, virtuous, and in doing good to *all* men; indeed we may say that we follow the admonition of Paul, "We believe all things, we hope all things, we have endured many things, and hope to be able to endure all things. If there is anything virtuous, lovely, or of good report or praiseworthy, we seek after these things."

"I have many a time, in this stand, dared the world to produce as mean devils as we can. We can beat them at anything. We have the *greatest and smoothest liars* in the world, the *cunningest and most adroit thieves*, and any other shade of character that you can mention. We can pick out elders in Israel right here who can beat the world at gambling; who can handle the cards: can cut and shuffle them with the smartest rogue on God's footstool. I can produce elders here who can shave their smartest shavers, and take their money from them. We can beat the world at any game. We can beat them because we have men here that *live in the light of the Lord; that have the holy* priesthood, and hold the keys of the kingdom of God."—*Brigham Young, reported in Deseret News, Vol. 6, p. 291; Jour. of Dis., Vol. 4, p. 77.*

Beliefs upon points not mentioned in articles:

POLYGAMY AND MARRIAGE.

The revelation, (in part):

"For behold, I reveal unto you a new and everlasting covenant; and if ye abide not that covenant, then are ye damned." *Marriage Eternal*—"And again, verily I say unto you, if a man marry a wife . . . by the new and everlasting covenant, and it is sealed unto them . . . it shall be done unto them in all things whatsoever my servant hath put upon them, in time, and through all eternity, and shall be of full force when they are out of the world; . . . Then shall they be Gods, because they have all power, and the angels are subject unto them." *Polygamy*—"And again, as pertaining to the law of the priesthood: if a man espouse a virgin, and desire to espouse another, . . . if he have ten virgins given unto him by this law, he cannot commit adultery, for they belong to him, and they are given unto him, therefore he is justified."—*See Pearl of Great Price, pp. 123, 136.* "If plural marriage be unlawful, then is the whole plan of salvation, through the house of Israel, a failure, and the entire fabric of Christianity without foundation."—*Comp., p. 125.* "God did approve of a plurality of wives as practiced by his ancient servants. . . . And that which he approves . . . must be not only not bad, but positively good, pure and holy."—*Elder B. H. Roberts, in long article defending polygamy in Improvement Era, May, 1898.* "Those who denounce patriarchal marriage will have to stay without and never walk the golden streets."—*Bible and Polygamy, p. 158. Apostle Orson Hyde, president of the twelve apostles, said in a sermon, October 6, 1854:* "If at a marriage of Cana of

Galilee, Jesus was the bridegroom and took unto him Mary, Martha, and the other Mary, whom Jesus loved, it shocks not our nerves. If there was not attachment and familiarity between our Saviour and these women, highly improper only in the relation of husband and wife, then we have no sense of propriety. We say it was Jesus Christ who was married, whereby he could *see his seed* before he was crucified. I shall say here that before the Saviour died *he looked upon his own natural children as we* look upon ours. When Mary came to the sepulcher she saw two angels and they said unto her, 'Woman, why weepest thou?' She said unto them, 'Because they have taken away my *Lord or husband.*' "

TITHING.

"It is a day for the tithing of my people; for he that is tithed shall not be burned at his coming." —*D. and C., 64: 23; See full law D. and C., sec. 119.* "The doctrine of Brother Joseph is, that not one dollar of that you possess is your own; and if the Lord wants it to use, let it go, and it is none of your business what he does with it. . . . [Speaking of elder not paying a loan of $1,000.] He has, perhaps, helped that poor family to gather with it. . . . If you murmur against that elder it will prove your damnation."—*Brigham Young, J. of D., I. p. 340.*

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The Widow's Mites.

BY REV. CHAS. H. SPURGEON.

On the left of the entrance (to the old church of St. Brelade) is a good notion, a money-box for the poor, with an inscription in French: "Jesus, etant assis vis-a-vis du tronc, regardait comment le peuple mettait de l'argent dans le tronc."—Mark. 12:41. A text even more suitable in French than in its English form: "Jesus sat over against the treasury, and beheld how the people cast money into the treasury."

With that text before their eyes, surely many professing Christians would contribute more, and in a better spirit.

We should be ashamed to give grudgingly, if we felt sure that Jesus looked on. This Scripture needs to be put over weekly-offering boxes, for it is generally neglected in the reading, all persons being in a hurry to get to the widow's mites.

With all due respect to that most admirable widow, we are afraid that she has innocently been a shield for covetous hypocrites. Rich men contribute a guinea ($5) to some enterprise requiring tens of thousands, and they modestly say, "Put it down as the widow's mite."

My dear sir, it was in the plural, two mites, so please make it two guineas ($10), so as to be accurate in number, at any rate; and then remember that she gave all her living, and you defraud the woman if you call your donation by her name, and yet do not give a tenth, nor a hundredth, nay, perhaps not even a thousandth part of your substance to the Lord. It were to be wished that some minute subscribers out of magnificent incomes would become "widows indeed," or at least give "widow's mites" indeed and of a truth.

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